

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BLANTY 00855 021603Z

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ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-20 NSC-07 CPR-02 CIAE-00 INR-10

NSAE-00 RSC-01 A-01 M-02 PER-05 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00

DRC-01 /068 W

----- 109708

O 021445Z JUL 74

FM AMEMBASSY BLANTYRE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 7163

INFO AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM NIACT IMMEDIATE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BLANTYRE 855

FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY EASUM FROM CHARGE

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, MI

SUBJ: MALAWI 10TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS

REFS: STATE 142398, DAR 2196

1. REFTELS RECEIVED MID-MORNING JULY 2. BLANTYRE'S TELEGRAM 836 CONVEYING GOM INVITATION SEND US DEL TO TENTH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS WAS TRANSMITTED (I BELIEVE CORRECTLY) BY EMBASSY DUTY OFFICER DURING MY ABSENCE FROM BLANTYRE JUNE 28-29. HAD I BEEN CONTACTED I WOULD HAVE RELAYED GOM INVITATION BUT RECOMMENDED AGAINST DISPATCH OF US DEL.

2. THUS FAR ONLY LIBERIAN PRESIDENT TOLBERT IS EXPECTED FOR TENTH ANNIVERSARY EVENTS. GOM CHIEF OF PROTOCOL INFORMED ME MORNING JUNE 28 THAT GOM MIN EXTERNAL AFFAIRS WAS CONCERNED ABOUT LACK OF DISTINGUISHED VISITORS. THIS APPARENTLY LED TO MEETING SATURDAY JUNE 29 BETWEEN EXTAFF OFFICIAL AND EMBASSY SECOND SECRETARY IN WHICH LAST-MINUTE INVITATION TO US WAS ISSUED.

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PAGE 02 BLANTY 00855 021603Z

3. BRITISH HIGH COMMISSION ADVISES IT RECEIVED NO EQUIVALENT

INVITATION AND IS SENDING NO SPECIAL DELEGATION TO CEREMONIES.
IT RUMORED ROVING JAPANESE AMBASSADOR MAY ATTEND, BUT
WE HAVE HEARD OF NO OTHER SPECIAL DELEGATIONS.

4. UNDER CIRCUMSTANCES I BELIEVE IT IS UNNECESSARY FOR DEPT
TO MAKE SPECIAL EFFORT AT LATE DATE TO SEND SPECIAL
REPRESENTATIVE. US HAS JUST RECEIVED PUBLIC THANKS FROM
PRESIDENT BANDA FOR ASSISTANCE TO MALAWI UNIVERSITY, (NEW
CAMPUS INAUGURATED TODAY AND I WAS PERSONALLY CALLED TO PODIUM
TO RECEIVE THANKS). US INTEREST IN MALAWI WILL BE AMPLY
DEMONSTRATED IN NEXT FEW WEEKS WITH SIGNATURE OF NEW AID
LOAN AND ONE AMENDMENT TOTALLING DOLS 13.4 NEW COMMITMENTS.
I DO NOT BELIEVE GOM WILL TAKE AMISS EXPLANATION THAT LATE
RECEIPT OF INVITATION MADE ACCEPTANCE DIFFICULT. ON OTHER
HAND, SHOULD DEPT. DECIDE SEND SPECIAL REP, AM SURE GOM WILL
BE GRATEFUL IN VIEW PAUCITY OF OTHER NOTABLES ATTENDING
CEREMONY.

5. REGRET I HAVE BEEN UNABLE WEIGH IN EARLIER WITH FOREGOING
VIEWS. APPRECIATE AMBASSADOR CARTER'S INTEREST BUT ALSO
HIS PROBLEMS IN ATTENDING ON SHORT NOTICE.
FARBER

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